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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4365th meeting of the Security Council, held on 5 September 2001, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the success of the preparatory meeting of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, held in Gaborone on 20-24 August 2001.

"The Security Council reiterates its strong support for the Inter-Congolese Dialogue and for the efforts of the Facilitator and his team in the field. It calls on all the Congolese parties to further cooperate with each other and the Facilitator in the constructive spirit of Gaborone to ensure the successful outcome of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue starting on 15 October 2001, in Addis Ababa.

"The Security Council stresses the importance for the Dialogue to be free from outside interference, open, representative and inclusive, and emphasizes the need to ensure adequate representation of Congolese women in the process.

"The Security Council encourages donors to provide further support to the Facilitator for the Inter-Congolese Dialogue and, in due course, the process of implementing a new political dispensation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

"The Security Council urges all the parties to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement to press forward with the full and early implementation of that Agreement, including disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, repatriation and resettlement of the armed groups, and the withdrawal of foreign forces."

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Security Council

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10 September 2001
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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4368th meeting of the Security Council, held on 10 September 2001, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in East Timor", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls its previous resolutions and the statements of its President on the situation in East Timor.

"The Security Council warmly welcomes the successful staging on 30 August 2001 of the elections for East Timor's first Constituent Assembly, in particular the orderly and peaceful conduct of the elections and the very high voter turnout, which demonstrated the wish of the East Timorese people to establish a full participatory democracy. In that regard, the Council recognizes with appreciation the important role of the East Timorese leadership and welcomes the cooperation extended by the Government of Indonesia during the election period.

"The Security Council expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor for facilitating a smooth and representative election process. The Security Council calls on all parties to fully respect and implement the election results which provide the basis for a broad-based Constituent Assembly. The Security Council looks forward to the establishment on 15 September of the Constituent Assembly and the new Cabinet within the framework of resolution 1272 (1999). The Security Council calls upon all parties to work together to draft a constitution which reflects the will of the East Timorese people and to cooperate for the successful completion of the final steps towards independence, in a complex process of stabilization in East Timor which will take some time and will involve many actors.

"The Security Council reiterates the importance of a substantial international presence in East Timor post-independence.

"The Security Council looks forward to receiving the Secretary-General's October report focusing on the transition and post-independence periods."

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4377th meeting of the Security Council, held on 20 September 2001, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Angola", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council remains concerned at the continuing conflict in Angola. It reiterates its position that the primary responsibility for the continued fighting lies with the leadership of the armed faction of the União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola (UNITA) headed by Mr. J. Savimbi which is refusing to fulfil its obligations under the 'Accordos de Paz' (S/22609, annex), the Lusaka Protocol (S/1994/1441, annex) and relevant resolutions of the Security Council, which remain the only viable basis for political settlement of the conflict in Angola.

"The Council considers the four point agenda for peace proposed by the Government of Angola a useful indication of areas where an agreement or progress should be reached. It calls on UNITA armed faction headed by Mr. J. Savimbi to cease all military action and to enter into a dialogue with the Government of Angola on how to conclude the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol on this basis.

"The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks by UNITA forces on the civilian population of Angola. It stresses that such attacks are unacceptable and cannot be justified by any political goals. The Council reminds their perpetrators that such acts are in violation of international law and may have further implications.

"The Security Council reaffirms that the failure by the armed faction of UNITA to implement its obligations under the 'Accordos de Paz', the Lusaka Protocol, and its relevant resolutions remains the reason for the Security Council sanctions against UNITA. The Council is determined to keep sanctions in place until it is convinced that the conditions in its relevant resolutions are met. It reiterates its call on all States to implement strictly the sanctions regime against UNITA and urges them to strengthen, where appropriate, their internal legislation related to application of sanction measures imposed by the Council. The Council reaffirms its intention to keep sanctions under close monitoring and periodic review in order to raise their effectiveness, including as they relate to UNITA activity abroad.

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"The Security Council notes with satisfaction that, at their recent summit, the Heads of States and Governments of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries undertook to prepare a report on how SADC countries implement Security Council resolution 1295. The Council encourages SADC countries to cooperate fully in their efforts to implement the Security Council's measures against UNITA.

"The Security Council encourages the Government of Angola to promote the peace process and in this regard welcomes the initiatives by the Government of Angola, as well as by the Angolan people, including the Civil Society and the Churches. It calls on the Angolan authorities to continue efforts aimed at national reconciliation and stabilization of the situation in the country in consultation with all segments of the Angolan society, including the Civil Society and the Churches. These should focus on re-establishment of the state administration, improvement of the social and economic situation of the population, promotion of the rule of law, protection of human rights, the activity of the Interagency Committee and of the Peace and Reconciliation Fund.

"The Security Council supports the intention of the Government of Angola to hold elections as a part of the ongoing democratization process in Angola in conformity with the universally accepted democratic principles and standards. It stresses the need to create the necessary conditions for elections to be free and fair. The Council requests the Secretary-General to provide appropriate support, in coordination with the Government of Angola, in preparation of elections, including through the work of the ongoing United Nations technical assistance mission.

"The Security Council notes the positive contribution that the United Nations Office in Angola (UNOA) is making towards finding the solution to the Angolan conflict. It reiterates its full support for the work of UNOA and the Representative of the Secretary-General.

"The Security Council is seriously concerned with the plight of the Angolan population particularly the internally displaced persons and, in order to alleviate its suffering, calls again on all parties concerned to facilitate the delivery of emergency relief assistance. The work of the United Nations agencies and other international organizations delivering assistance to those in the affected areas is of the utmost importance and must continue unobstructed with the financial support of the international community."

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Security Council

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4382nd meeting of the Security Council, held on 26 September 2001, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in the Central African Republic", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council has considered the report of the Secretary-General of 19 September 2001 (S/2001/886) submitted in accordance with the statement of its President on 17 July 2001 (S/PRST/2001/18), particularly his recommendations on how the United Nations might further contribute to the recovery of the Central African Republic.

"The Security Council expresses its appreciation of the continuing work of the Secretary-General's representative, General Lamine Cissé, and of the United Nations Peace-building Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA).

"The Security Council expresses its continued deep concern at the precarious situation in the Central African Republic. It reiterates its call on all parties for political dialogue, national reconciliation and respect for human rights in the spirit of the 1998 National Reconciliation Pact. In this respect it has taken note of the appeals for national unity made by the Central African authorities.

"The Security Council calls on the Central African authorities to follow the internationally accepted standards for due process in the course of investigations and court trials of individuals involved in the coup attempt in May 2001. These procedures should be transparent and should not be allowed to aggravate the inter-ethnic relations in the Central African Republic. The refugees who left the country after the failed coup should be able to return in safety without fear of persecution on ethnic basis.

"The Security Council encourages the international community to make a substantial and urgent contribution to the recovery of the Central African Republic and emphasizes that the efficiency of such a contribution will greatly depend on the efforts the Government of the Central African Republic itself makes to this end. The Council emphasizes that the crucial issues of external debt and payment of arrears of salary for civil servants need to be urgently addressed.

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"The Security Council encourages the United Nations Development Programme and the international financial institutions, particularly the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the African Development Bank, to consider, in consultation with the Government of the Central African Republic and the Secretary-General's Representative, ways of strengthening the capacities of the Government of the Central African Republic in the management of its economic and financial affairs, including through secondment of high-level experts. The Council invites the Secretary-General to keep it informed of actions taken in this regard when he presents his next report on the Central African Republic. In addition, the Council urges the Bretton Woods institutions to show exceptional solicitude towards the Central African Republic.

"The Security Council takes note with interest of the intention of the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Government of the Central African Republic, to extend the mandate of BONUCA and to strengthen it in accordance with paragraph 29 of his report of 19 September 2001 (S/2001/886).

"The Security Council underlines the need to continue the restructuring of the Central African armed forces to enable them to fulfil their role effectively, loyally and impartially, in the service of the Central African people. It also recalls the importance of implementing an effective arms-collection programme. In this regard, it supports the recommendations in paragraphs 17 and 18 of the report of the Secretary-General.

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to continue to keep it regularly informed of the activities of BONUCA and the situation in the Central African Republic, particularly in the areas of political dialogue, national reconciliation and respect for human rights."

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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4383rd meeting of the Security Council, held on 26 September 2001, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in Burundi", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reaffirms its strong support for the Facilitation of Former President Nelson Mandela, and urges all Burundians of goodwill to join in the cause of peace, democracy and national reconciliation in their country. It also calls upon all parties to cooperate fully with the Implementation Monitoring Committee.

"The Security Council looks forward to and strongly supports the 1 November 2001 installation of the transitional government in Burundi. The Security Council believes that this event, the creation of a broad-based and inclusive government, will mark a critical turning point in the Burundi peace process. It will also encourage the donors to provide additional assistance, including by honouring fully the pledges they made during the Paris Donors' Conference in December 2000.

"The Security Council calls on the Burundian parties to reach agreement swiftly on the establishment of a special protection unit entrusted solely with the police function of providing personal security for politicians returning from exile. It welcomes the convening by the Facilitation of a pre-implementation stakeholders meeting in Arusha and urges the international community to provide, on an urgent basis, support for the training and deployment of this special protection unit.

"Deeply concerned by the increase of violence recently, the Security Council recalls the urgent need to bring about a negotiated settlement of the conflict and calls upon the Facilitation, the Regional Peace Initiative for Burundi, the Government of Burundi, the signatory parties and the armed groups to devote their full attention to the achievement of a definitive ceasefire. The Security Council once again calls on the Forces pour la Défense de la Démocratie and Forces Nationales de Libération to suspend hostilities, to continue negotiations and to join the peace process. The Council believes that the installation of a broad-based government on the basis of an internationally sanctioned peace process makes armed rebellion an unacceptable means of political expression. It calls on the FNL and FDD, together with the Burundi

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Government, to observe strictly the rights of the civilian population and other provisions of international humanitarian law.

"The Security Council calls on all States, in particular those in the region, to cease all forms of support to the FNL and FDD, and urges all Member States to encourage the armed groups to join the peace process.

"The Security Council calls on the States of the Regional Initiative to mark the installation of the transitional government by further enhancing their bilateral and regional cooperation with the new government. The Council believes that this cooperation is particularly important in the area of regional security and calls on the Governments of Burundi and its neighbouring States to increase their cooperation in this regard.

"The Security Council expresses its concern at the deteriorating humanitarian situation and calls on all parties to create the conditions for the voluntary return of refugees, and for the safe and unhindered activities of the humanitarian relief community. It also calls upon the donor community to increase their humanitarian assistance to Burundi and to accelerate its delivery."